

Museum
Quarterly Report
July – September 2001
OVERVIEW

The Friends of the Museum hosted the 33rd annual Museum Comes to Life on Saturday, September 29. A record 57 exhibitors took place in the event this year including a papermaker and harpist, both new this year. The Museum was also the location for the National//International Geographic Names Board meeting in September.

Dust collectors and new heaters have been installed at the storage facility. Staff is working with Diana Dicus on the final report for the NEH Conservation Assessment.

Work on the JC Earl exhibit and other collection related projects continues.

PERSONNEL

Bev Ingraham is back at work processing catalogue records on the database.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

We had 17 donations in the past quarter.

TRAVEL

In State:

Ken Swanson: Presented paper at Geographic Names Board Meeting

Milan Kovach: Birch Creek – July 7

Kris Major: Caldwell, Eagle, and Meridian

Out of State:

Audra Sims: AASLH conference, Medford, Or. 7/25 to 7/28

Kris Major: Washington DC for NEH grant consultation.

Past and Upcoming Events
At the Museum

July 13th Persi Gain Sharing meeting

August 6th Red Cross Blood Drive

August 16th Seattle University

August 17th Idaho Arts Commission

August 23 Lewis and Clark meeting

September 4-9 Geographic Names Board

September 15th Log Cabin Book Fest

Upcoming Events

September 24th Neighborhood Development

September 26th Annette's (gift shop mgr.) class reunion

September 29th MCTL (Museum Comes to Life)

October 2nd Division of Human Resources

October 2nd Brown Bag – A. Hart-Idaho's Church's

October 9th Brown Bag – Ken Swanson-JC Earl collection

October 11th St. Vincent de Paul-Stone Soup Supper 4pm – 9pm

October 12th AG All Star Recognition dinner 5pm – 9:30pm

October 13th Neighborhood Alliance 9am – 5pm

October 16th EEE Inc. – 4pm – 10:30pm

November 3rd BC/VB (American Council Learned Societies) 3pm-10pm

November 13th Cornish College of Arts-6: 30pm-9pm

November 15th Nez Perce serenade songs-7pm-9pm

November 16-18 SHAM meeting-Steve Guerber

EDUCATION PROGRAM

Personnel

There has been no change in personnel this quarter. Kris is hoping that Boise State University will provide a student intern to assist with the Idaho History Day program, but has not heard yet.

Budget

There were no changes to the budget this quarter.

Program updates

- *History day* – Plans are being made for the 2002 competition. The date for the state contest has been set for April 12, 2002 at BSU. Regional contests will take place in March. A distance-learning workshop is tentatively scheduled for November 3, 2001. It will be produced in partnership with the Utah History Fair and will be broadcast from Logan, Utah to three-four sites in Idaho. Kris gave a session on the Idaho History Day program at BSU's Edufest conference in July. The conference participants included gifted and talented facilitators from all of Idaho's school districts.
- *Museum visitation* – Recruitment and training of volunteers for the fall educational programs took place in September. Marionette presentations for October and November were booked by the end of August and another busy fall is predicted.
- *Outreach* – The new educational brochure was completed and mailed to every school in Idaho. Copies were also sent to each legislator. The first in a series of four distance-learning presentations took place on September 19. Despite two mailings, very few schools expressed interest in receiving the first broadcast. We will continue to advertise the series at upcoming teacher workshops, in educational publications, on the State Department of Education's web site, and through the statewide distance-learning network to generate more interest for the next three presentations.
- *Summer Teachers' Institutes* – The ISHS played a significant role in "Beyond the Classroom", a summer teachers' institute sponsored by the Boise Art Museum. Sixteen teachers visited Boise the end of July and learned how museums could be used as unique learning environments for their students. One day was spent with the ISHS with time equally divided between the Old Pen, the Capitol, and the Museum. Evaluations received by the participants rated the ISHS as superior in the quality and variety of programs offered to teachers. The ISHS also partnered with the Idaho Humanities Council and the Idaho Commission on the Arts on a summer teachers' institute held the second week of July at Albertson College of Idaho. This institute, "Cultural Roots: A Model for Integrating Folk life into the Curriculum" hosted twenty-two teachers from throughout Idaho. The purpose of the class was to introduce teachers to the rich cultural diversity in their communities and show them easy ways of recognizing and celebrating these cultures in their classrooms. Historians, folklorists, and curriculum specialists worked with the teachers over an intensive seven-day period using the Latino

culture as a model. A proposal for next summer's institute was submitted to the Idaho Humanities Council to be considered in their fall grant round. The proposed institute will be held in Pocatello and follow the theme of teaching with historic places. The SHPO office has been very active in planning this course. Kris should hear by Christmas whether the IHC would fund this institute.

- *Miscellaneous* – The ISHS received a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to tour the traveling exhibit, "Raices Hispanicas" to six different venues in Idaho. The grant will also fund opening night speakers at each of the six venues and two workshops for teachers and the public on exploring cultural diversity in their communities. The grant will run from February 2002 through the spring of 2003.

Kris will be presenting at the October Idaho Council for History Educator's conference on October 4-5, 2001. Besides giving two presentations, she will also set up a display table to promote the educational programs of ISHS.

HISTORIC SITES

Milan Kovach traveled to Birch Creek, July 7, to assist and observe in the restoration of the charcoal kilns.

Rock Creek- Idaho water Resources was unable to divert water from current channel into our portion of Rock creek. Consequently, we purchased an additional irrigation pump to pump from the current channel over the berm to Rock Creek. We are now getting sufficient water to irrigate the lawns and flowerbeds surrounding the Stricker Homesite.

Tom Duerr and Terry Costa have removed deteriorated flooring from the Rock Creek store. They excavated some of the dirt from below the floor, and are presently installing a sub-floor and flooring system. They should be finished with this and the installation of the new porch by the end of October.

We also had the site re-surveyed and have identified the correct meets and boundaries of the property.

Old Pen- The horse barn slate roof, re-roofing project is in progress. We have had to replace approximately 5000 sq. ft. of shiplap 1x8 sheathing. In addition, are in process of installing 50 squares of slate acquired from the Virginia Slate Co., located in Buckingham County Virginia.

Completed restoration on ZCMI door and installed it before the Trustees meeting July 27.

Milan has met twice more with the Department of Transportation in Pocatello, regarding the TEA-21 program for the project in Franklin, Idaho.

We are doing an asphalt-paving project at Old Pen in front of the Transportation and Curtis Earl museums.

OLD IDAHO PENITENTIARY VISITATION

Visitation numbers for the quarter are not yet available but it appears that there has been an increase from the same period last year.

VOLUNTEERS

Old Idaho Penitentiary

Nineteen volunteers contributed their talents and time throughout the summer. We were happy to welcome high school students from Bishop Kelly and Centennial to our front desk staff during their summer break. Tori Wolf, Of Bishop Kelly, has continued into fall after school.

We had good attendance at our end-of-summer potluck and barbecue. Volunteers enjoyed visiting together on a pretty summer evening, great food, and receiving volunteer pins and certificates.

INTERPRETATION

Old Idaho Penitentiary

A regular schedule of interpretive programs was maintained Memorial Day through Labor Day. Five programs were offered Monday to Saturday with three programs on Sundays. Programs are quite popular with the majority of visitors choosing to participate.

The decision has been made to extend interpretive services on weekends throughout the year. Interpretive programs led by volunteers and staff on weekends in September has been very well attended.

Sandy Thomas is working on revisions to the publication offered for sale to visitors, “*A Walking Tour Guide*”, the Old Penitentiary rack card, and the site map.

STAFF

The Old Penitentiary was once again lucky to have an excellent group of summer seasonal staff members. Tammy Farrell, with experience in juvenile corrections, received numerous positive comments from visitors. Debbie Salgado, who also works as an interpreter for IDP&R at Bruneau Sand Dunes State Park, has been a great addition to our staff. Lauren Fein, our Eagle High School intern from last fall, developed an effective and thought provoking program using her youthful perspective. Staff members from past years, Joe Lindsey and Lori Fuchs, have also filled in as needed.

Erica Lester, our weekend front desk receptionist for 1-½ years, left for a full time position. Jan Carr has been hired and trained to take on part of that responsibility. Weekend staffing for fall has been split between other staff as well. We have added a third person, as an interpreter, to our weekend staff. This will provide a better experience

for visitors, added flexibility for staffing, and extra security for visitors, volunteers, and staff.

MEDIA

Emily Simmitt of the Idaho Statesman wrote a comprehensive feature article that was published in August. It included historical background as well as information about the current master planning process. With several interesting front page photos as well as 1 ½ pages inside, this was very nice publicity for the site as well as good information for the community.

STATE CAPITOL

Personnel

Volunteer Donna Hartmans has quit; the Capitol Architect position has been taken away. New volunteer, David Bennion started in July, and works mostly Tuesday s and Thursdays.

The Capitol has six active volunteers doing tours, research, visitor services and program development.

This quarter was 170 volunteer hours.

MEDIA

1. Tuesday 9/11, Public TV taping aired. IPTV has it on their web site.
2. Channel 2 will air “Pop up Idaho” on the Statehouse either 9/22 or 9/29 Saturday at 6:30pm.
3. Qwest/DEX community pages-Capitol Education Center
4. *Boise Family Magazine*- ISHS sites in multi-page article, including Capitol.

Audra gave three tours to Brown Bag lunch programs to Capitol Mall employees’ on 7/11, 7/17 and 8/29. The subject was “Tinker toys to Triglyphs” Capitol Architecture. Audra also helped Jody Ochoa with the Museum Comes to Life 9/29/01.

Things you would like brag to about

1. Education Brochure complete; back from printer and bulk mailed to all schools
2. On 9/19, the first distance learning broadcast, others will be in November, January, and April. Will encompass History topics to broadcast to sites around Idaho.

Community Support

Jan Frew with DPW did a special tour of Capitol for International students.

Department of Commerce-Trade delegation; Capitol tour and information.
Wheat commission 8/15- foreign delegation- Capitol tour and information.

TOUR PARTICIPANTS:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| July- | 448 |
| August- | 442 |
| September- | 340 |
| <u>For a total of</u> | <u>1,230</u> |

Miscellaneous

Volunteer Trainings held 8/14 for 3 hours and for 6 hours on 9/13.

On 9/20 met with CSHQA architects regarding plans for ISHS/Capitol Education, center space in Capitol post-restoration.

Education and display committee meetings/work in progress.

August 24 was last day of summer tours, we now begin school season and tours by reservation.

Working to stop/correct security personnel from opening office after hours and removing furniture (chairs).

Respectfully submitted by:
Kenneth J. Swanson
Administrator
Idaho State Historical Museum
And Sites